



Great Marlow School

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EXECUTIVE HEADTEACHER

Mr K Ford

HEAD OF SCHOOL

Mr G Pendlebury

Our Ref: Apr/cme

12th March 2025

Dear Parent / Carer,

Re: Drawing and Photography Visit to Natural History Museum and Botanic Gardens, Oxford

As part of the **GCSE Art and Design** course for Year 10 moving into Year 11, the Art & Design Department has arranged a trip to **The Oxford Natural History Museum and The Oxford Botanic Gardens**. The visit is compulsory and will give students the vital experience of collecting first-hand observations through drawing and photography, forming the basis of the students' second GCSE coursework unit. The visit is designed to further enhance our students' cultural and contextual understanding through the experience of viewing subject matter in an external setting.

The trip will take place on **Thursday 17th July 2025**.

Cost

We would be grateful for a voluntary contribution of £16 to cover transport and entry to the Botanic Gardens. Entry to the Natural History Museum is free of charge. There is no obligation to contribute and students will not be treated differently according to whether or not parents / carers have made any contribution. However, the trip may be unable to go ahead if we do not receive sufficient contributions.

We are aiming for the trip to be inclusive of all students. Therefore, we will do our best to accommodate all needs, as far as is possible. The students will be representing the school throughout the school trip and are expected to display respect, readiness and responsibility as always. In the unlikely event that a student does not meet our expectations, sanctions will follow.

Please log on to WisePay to complete the MS Consent Form and make any payment by Monday 12th May.

Thank you in advance for your support in meeting this deadline.

Meals & equipment

Students will need to bring their sketchbooks, drawing equipment and a suitable camera or good camera phone. We advise cameras are stored in carry cases with straps worn across the body. It is essential that all photographs from the day are downloaded and stored in a safe location, as these will be needed at a later date.

Students may wear their own suitable clothing for the trip but should bear in mind that they are representing the school and are politely asked not to wear cropped tops or short skirts. Jeans and trainers are appropriate, along with an umbrella in the event of rain.

Students will require a packed lunch or will need to bring a small amount of spending money to purchase food, though options are limited to a small café at the Museum.

Travel arrangements

Students should register directly with Art staff in the coach park at 8.35 am. We will be travelling by coach to Oxford. We aim to arrive back to school before 3 pm, so there should be no need to make any special arrangements for collection. However, we will ask students to let you know if we are delayed for any reason. Students must take responsibility for catching up on any work missed.

Please note that students will have unsupervised time while they complete self-guided tours around the museum and gardens. They will be instructed to stay in groups of at least 3 and are not permitted to leave the grounds. They will travel between the Museum and Gardens on foot, supervised by teaching staff. This is an approximate 15-20 minute walk.

Yours faithfully

Abby Perman
Acting Head of Art